IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Osamu TAKAGI et al.

Title:

FIXING MECHANISM FOR USE IN IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

Prior Appl. No.:

10/154,970

Prior Appl.

Filing Date:

05/28/2002

Examiner:

Unassigned

Art Unit:

Unassigned

CONTINUING PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) is a:

[X] Continuation [] Division [] Continuation-In-Part (CIP)

of the above-identified copending prior application in which no patenting, abandonment, or termination of proceedings has occurred. Priority to the above-identified prior application is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120 for this continuing application. The entire disclosure of the above-identified prior application is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuing application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.

[] Applicant claims small entity status under 37 CFR 1.27.

Enclosed are:

- [X]Specification, Claim(s), and Abstract (62 pages).
- Formal drawings (17 sheets, Figures 1-23). [X]
- [X]Declaration and Power of Attorney (2 pages).
- [X] Information Disclosure Statement.

- [X] Form PTO/SB/08.
- [X] Application Data Sheet (37 CFR 1.76).

The filing fee is calculated below:

	Claims		Included in	. –	Extra				Fee
	as Filed		Basic Fee		Claims		Rate		Totals
Basic Fee							\$770.00		\$770.00
Total Claims:	1	-	20	=	0	X	\$18.00	=	\$0.00
Independ ents:	1	-	3	_ =	0	x	\$86.00	=	\$0.00
If any Multiple Dependent Claim(s) present: + \$290.00								=	\$0.00
SUBTOTAL:								=	\$770.00
[] Small Entity Fees Apply (subtract ½ of above):								=	\$0.00
TOTAL FILING FEE:								=	\$770.00

- [X] A check in the amount of \$770.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- [] The required filing fees are not enclosed but will be submitted in response to the Notice to File Missing Parts of Application.
- [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Please direct all correspondence to the undersigned attorney or agent at the address indicated below.

Date March 4, 2004

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

Customer Number: 22428

Telephone:

(202) 672-5426

Facsimile:

(202) 672-5399

Glenn Law

Respectfully submitted

Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 34,371